#### EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

Original



Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

Received May 21, 2003

To: 02-277

21 exparte notices

To: Chairman/Commissioners

## Pinecrest Memorial Cemetery

311 South First Street • Telephone (912) 427-4422 JESUP, GEOFGIA 31545

5-10- 2003

The Honorable Kevin J. Martin Commissioner - Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW

Washington, D.C. 20554

AMOUNT

Dear Mr. Martin,

I am writing to ask you to please not change the broadcast rules governing ownership as they now exist.

I am opposed to large corporations gaining courtral and not allowing free debate and different points of view being heard on the air. Thank you, BOR ARMUNON.

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## Pinecrest Memorial Cemetery

311 South Street • Telephone (912) 427-4422 JEHUR CEORGIA 18:45

> 5-10-2003.

The Honorable Kathleen Q. Abernathy Commissioner- Federal Communications Commission 445 12 th Street, S.W.

Washington, D.C.

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## Pinecrest Memorial Cemetery

311 South First Street • Telephone (912) 427-4422 JESUP, GEORG A 31545

5-10- 2008

The Honorable Janethan S. Adelstein Commissioner-Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, S.W.

Washington, D.C.

20554

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Thank You,

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5-10- 2003

The Honorable Michael J. Copps Commissioner- Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW

Washington, D.C.

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## EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

The Honorable Kevin J. Martin, Commissioner Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554 PECHENCED & INSPECTE

Dear Mr. Martin,

I urge you <u>not</u> to relax the broadcast ownership rules that protect American citizens from media monopolies.

These proposed changes would pave the way for giant media conglomerates to gain near-total control of radio and television news and information in communities across our nation. And many of the corporations that are now lobbying the FCC to relax these ownership rules already have a known track record in attempting to keep opposing viewpoints off the air.

The American people deserve to hear more than one point of view on important issues. Therefore, for the sake of our democracy and our freedom, I urge you to continue the broadcast ownership protections that, for decades, have helped to ensure a healthy political debate in our country.

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Sincerely

Lawrence J. Natkowski Dearborn, MI 48124-4445

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David Foster EX PARTE OR LAHEndersonville, TN 37075-4133

METHOUSH A COLL

Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

RE: Docket No. 02-277 Don't abandon media safeguards!

Dear FCC Commissioners,

I strongly urge that the FCC abandon its plan to end long-standing and critical safeguards that have served as an important "check and balance" system to help ensure diversity of media ownership. Under the proposal you are considering, one company in a community will be able to own the newspaper, several TV and radio stations, the cable system, and the principal Internet access company. There will be fewer owners of networks, stations, and newspapers nationwide. This will very badly damage true media diversity and competition. A competitive and diverse media is absolutely essential to ensure an informed citizenry and a healthy and vibrant democracy.

Eliminating these last remaining protections of the public trust would constitute a complete abandonment of the FCC's mission to ensure that our airwaves, which are owned by all Americans, are used in a manner which ensures the diverse range of voices and opinions needed in a healthy democracy. Loss of these protections would constitute a huge and unacceptable giveaway of public resources and political power to a few large and powerful media companies.

Further consolidation of the media in the false name of "deregulation" must be halted and in fact reversed. TV and radio news in the hands of a handful of profit-driven corporations has undermined our democracy more than any other modern force except the high cost of broadcast commercials during elections. The media companies have failed in their public trust to provide crucial unbiased information to the public about most public issues. Americans depend upon the media to bring us information that will allow us to make the informed choices necessary for the well-being of our nation and our future.

As an American concerned about our democracy, I urge you to reject the current proposal to abandon the last remaining controls on media consolidation. Instead, I strongly urge you to break up the media conglomerates, to open the spectrum to a wide diversity of organizations and independent journalists, and to reinstate the Fairness Doctrine.

David Foster David Foster

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Bruce Colravy 1213 Vista View Ct. Mahomet, IL 61853-3654

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Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

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Most sincerely, Druce Colracy Bruce Colravy

#### EA BOLL SILLATE FILED

The Honorable Jonathan S, Adelstein, Commissioner Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

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The American people deserve to hear more than one point of view on important issues. Therefore, for the sake of our democracy and our freedom, I urge you to continue the broadcast ownership protections that, for decades, have helped to ensure a healthy political debate in our country.

Sincerely,

Lawrence J. Natkowský Dearborn, MI 48124-4445

#### EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

The Honorable Michael K. Powell, Commissioner Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554





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Sincerely,

Lawrence J. Natkowski Dearborn, MI 48124-4445

## EX PARTE OR LATE FILED

#### 54 Walden Pond Drive Nashua, New Hampshire 03064

May 14, 2003

Chairman Michael K. Powell
Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy
Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein
Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Kevin J. Martin
Federal Communications Commission
445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554



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Dear Chairman and Members of the Federal Communications Commission:

I am writing to you about your upcoming June 2 vote on media concentration proposals that I have just now learned about.

As I understand it, under these proposed broad rule changes companies could own combinations of newspapers and television and radio stations in the same city and any one company could control TV stations reaching nearly half of U.S. homes. I am strongly opposed to any such medial concentration as I do not believe that would be in the public interest. It is extremely important to hear many voices instead of just a few.

White I understand that this would benefit the present media giants (and enable them to grow even larger), I ask you to resist their influence, reject these proposals and leave the present restrictions on media ownership in place. The proposed changes are not in the long-term interest of the American public and would jeopardize our democratic society.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Linda Millman

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The Honorable Michael K. Powell Chairman Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup>. Street, S.W. Washington, D.C., 20554

Dear Chairman Powell,

Benjamin F. Harrison III 2735 Northwoods Drive, South Macon, Georgia, 31204-1621 14 May, 2003

HECEIVED & INSPECTED Astronomy as a serior serior and astronomy as

I am informed that the Federal Communications Commission has asked for public comment concerning proposed rule changes regarding the prohibition of what amounts to monopoly ownership of media sources, known as "Broadcast Ownership Rules". These changes, if approved as proposed, would make sweeping changes in the rules, materially weakening them, which would then, allow giant media corporations to form, as monopolistic entities, and/or to allow the "already too large" media conglomerates to further extend their "strangle hold" on what the populace reads, sees, and hears.

This whole effort is something that should never have gotten this far! It would be an outrage to allow the media to further consolidate their power over the information that is furnished daily to the public. At present, the media has far too much invasive effect on the public's opinions on issues of the day, allowing only programming that suites their personal agendas, some of which are contrary to our Constitution, by the way! Even now we have what amounts to "brain-washing" by the media, despite the current rules of the Commission, making one wonder what has already gone amiss.

Please do not contribute to the further degradation of our system, by allowing the likes of AOL Time Warner, Viacom/CBS, Disney/ABC and others, to sway the Commission into acceptance of the proposed changes to the detriment of free men trying to exercise their rights under the First Amendment which may run contrary to the designs of the media monopoly( which would be allowed by the proposed rule changes).

Thank You for taking the time to review my reasoning as to why the proposed rule changes should not come to pass.

Yours Very Truly,

Dayunin Flamson III Benjamin F. Harrison III 2735 Northwoods Drive, South Macon, Georgia, 31204-1621

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May 10, 2003

Dear Mr. Powell,

I don't know how you came to your current position of power at the FCC, nor if you have the maturity and wisdom for the crisis facing you. I hope you do. The easy thing to do would be to roll over to Corporate power and say there was nothing you could do, or worse that it will be a good thing for America to merrily change the existing laws to create further monopoly of the information available to our democracy. How can state owned media outlets around the world be decried as biased and unreliable and anathema to democracy but Corporate monopolistic control of American media won't be any of those things. I don't think you are naive, and I think you know full well the devastating effects Corporate censorship will have on our country. The question in my mind is whether you will have the miraculous courage to do the right thing or whether you will go with the Corporate flow and line your own future pockets by being one of the good ole boys. You have a once in a lifetime chance in front of you to stand out as a true heroe and patriot by defending free speech or go down in history as an example of cronyism at its worst.

Sincerely,

A concerned mother worried about retaliation in a growing Corporate state. Please stop the trend.

59 Kirby street Fort Rucker AL 36362

The Honorable Michael K. Powell Chairman Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington DC 20554

Subject: Broadcast ownership rules

Dear MS Abernathy,

May 15, 2003

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I urge you; do not relax the broadcast ownership rules that protect American citizens from media monopolies.

These proposed changes would pave the way for giant media conglomerates to gain near total control of radio and television news and information in communities across our nation. A recent example can be taken from the print media. The Los Angeles Times, a monopoly in their market, provided such one sided and distorted news coverage of the recent Iraq war that it vas laughable, if this sort of one sided news and information became the norm across America it could seriously jeopardize our form of government. Many of the corporations now lobbying the FCC to relax these ownership rules already have a track record of attempting to keep opposing viewpoints off the air.

The American people deserve to hear more than one point of view on important issues. Therefore, for the sake of a healthy democracy and to protect our freedom, I urge you to continue the broadcast ownership protections that, for decades, have helped to ensure a healthy debate in our country.

Sincerely,

David Bradshaw

P.S. Why would the government wish to assist the creation of giant media monopolies while at the same time declaring Microsoft a monopoly and attempt to break it apart?

# L. EARL LIGON ATTORNEY AT LAW P.O. BOX 84090 SAN DIEGO, CAL. 92138-4090

May 14, 2003

The Honorable Jonathon S. Adelstein Commissioner Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street SW Washington, DC 20554

MAY 2 8 Miles

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Re: Broadcast Ownership Rules

Dear Mr. Adelstein,

I am very concerned with your Commissions proposal to relax the current ownership rules protecting the public from monopolies in media ownership. I urge you to reject the proposed changes and seek ways to increase the range of community, political and social perspectives presented in the media.

The same media companies seeking these changes have poor track records of presenting a wide range of view. In fact quite the opposite is true. These companies have a track record of suppressing opposing or divergent views.

The public deserves to hear wide variety of views so that they may stay informed, promote democratic discourse, and seek the resolution of issue which best serve the preservation of freedom.

I urge you to continue the broadcast ownership protections that have served the public well for decades and which have helped to ensure a health political debate in our country.

Sincerelv

L. Earl Ligon

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MAY 2 1 2003

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May 14, 2003

Ms. Kathleen Q. Abernathy Commissioner Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

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Dear Ms. Abernathy,

I urge you to vote <u>against</u> the proposed weakening of current broadcast ownership rules.

Allowing already powerful networks to expand their ownership would greatly reduce the already limited diversity of opinion so necessary for enlightened discourse and the reasoned exercise of democracy.

Further consolidation of media ownership is not in the interest of the American public.

Sincerely,

Gregory D. Parker 106 Cross Road

Deering, NH 03244

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MAY 2 1 2003
FCC - MAIL ROOM

May 15, 2003

The Honorable Jonathan S. Adelstein Commissioner Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, S.W. Washington, DC 20554 Way A & 2003 Distribution Center

Dear Mr. Adelstein

It is my understanding that the Federal Communications Commission will be considering a change to the current broadcast ownership rules. In addition, that the change would relax those rules and make it possible for a single company to gain monopoly ownership in a particular market.

In a society that lives by free and open communication it seems to me to be a step backward to allow a single organization to be the sole voice in a particular area. It is very important to have multiple points of view encouraged as it is only through good access to information that people can make well-informed decisions.

Please do what you can to keep the current ownership rules in place. They serve us well and changing them appears only to serve a small portion of our society.

Sincerely

Allan Van Thomme 1076 Belle Mar Dr.

West Des Moines, IA 50266-4911

MAY 2 1 2003
FCC - MAILROOM

#### JENNIFER BEUTZ

5624 SHERIDAN AVE S, MINNEAPOLIS, Minnesota 55410

May 14, 2003 01:25 PM

FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell Federal Communications Commission 445 12th St., SW Washington, DC 20554

Subject: Protect Children's Television!

MAY & 8 2003

Distribution Center

Dear FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell:

The FCC must consider the unique needs of children in its upcoming rulemaking on broadcast ownership rules.

Children consume almost five and a half hours of media per day. Research has shown that media, particularly television, play a unique and powerful role in children's development.

The FCC should consider how further relaxation of media ownership rules would impact children's programming. **Deregulation may reduce competition, increase commercialism** and result in less original programming for children.

Before making any regulatory changes to existing media ownership rules, the FCC must consider how children will be affected.

Sincerely,

JENNIFER BEUTZ 16

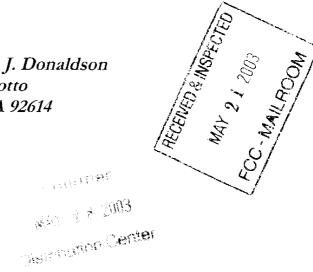
cc:

Representative Martin Sabo Senator Mark Dayton Senator Norm Coleman

#### Robert M & Rita J. Donaldson 298 Giotto Irvine, CA 92614

May 14, 2003

Mr. Michael K. Powell, Chairman Ms. Kathleen Q. Abernathy, Commissioner Mr. Michael J. Copps, Commissioner Mr. Kevin J. Martin, Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein, Commissioner Federal Communications Commissioner 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554



Dear Mr. Powell & Commissioners:

I am writing you to share some thoughts and concerns about your proposed ownership rule changes regarding our national media. My personal biases are based on the fact that I am a business owner in Orange, County California, married 45 years and have 17 grandchildren. I have owned my consulting business for 23 years. My business provides national and international organizations with employee and executive job and career transition services when they are downsized, reorganized, merged, acquired laid-off or fired. It is call outplacement. These following thoughts reflect my experience in this service market over the past 20 years:

- 1. There is a substantial lose of middle-class jobs. With some exceptions these consolidations normally result in the loss of nearly all the middle management leadership and administrative positions. Companies consolidate these positions into their own corporate structures and release the people in the acquired company. Most of the people in these positions are in the middle class. Our middle class is shrinking. I have seen this happening over the past 20 years. We need business and social policy that strengthens and grows the middle class, not crodes it.
- 2. <u>Most of these consolidations are made for wealth building reasons of a few, not to improve service, performance or competition</u>. Our economy is built on a core of smaller individually owned companies. The number of entrepreneurial owned companies in our country is overwhelming. When these proposed rules are put into place, few, if any in the future, will be able to raise the vast amounts of capital required to enter into future competitive business. In my view, competition will only be improved when the actions we take stimulate competition, not reduce the opportunities that these changes would do. These consolidations are a little like the "Oil for Food Program" in Iraq. Lots of wonderful social discussions and promises about how wonderful the program will be for the poor and needy, but the reality is that the leadership ends up being the only ones who benefit.

- 3. Power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely. The media's level of influence and power in our society is more than significant. No one company should have the ability to gain 45% of any market as a result of a government rule. Any new rule changes made are better directed at increasing competition, not reducing it. The recent scandal at the New York Times, regardless of what the real reason turns about to be, is an example of why we need more competition, not less. We would be far better served by directing the media companies to stay focused in their market niche. In Los Angeles, the people would be far better served if our TV station KTLA was not owned by the Los Angeles Times.
- My 23 years of direct experience in the world of business tells me that the direction you are suggesting with these proposed rules changes are not in the best long-term interest of the economy or the people of our country. I hope you will rethink your current plans and move in the opposite direction.

Very sincerely

Cc: D. Feinstein – Senator

B. Boxer - Senator

C. Cox - Representative

Robert M. Domaldson

J. David Woodend 14908 Bauer Drive Rockville, MD 20853-3626 Phone: 301 871-3463 FAX: 301 871-6815 E mail: idlastlog@aol.com

May 7, 2003

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The Honorable Michael J. Copps Commissioner Federal Communications Commission 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW Washington, DC 20554 MAY 2 8 2003

Distribution Center

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Dear Mr. Copps,

I strongly urge you not to relax the broadcast ownership rules.

The powerful media giants already have enough power and influence in determining what news and information is presented, and how it is presented. Their abuses in that regard are well documented in important books like *Bias*, by well respected "liberal" news person Bernard Goldberg, and *Slander*, by commentator Ann Coulter. Notwithstanding those books, such abuses are well recognized and acknowledged by anybody who sees or hears the news and comment of the major media, and who still chooses to exercise their capacity to reason.

These broadcast giants demonstrate daily their unwillingness to provide balanced views. If you relax the rules, it will assuredly get worse. The American people deserve better. The nation deserves better.

Thank you,

J. David Woodend